



**south dakota**  
**STATE LIBRARY**  
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## South Dakota Libraries' Guide to...

# SIRS Researcher

### SIRS Researcher features include:

- All articles are full-text
- Nearly 100 Leading Issues
  - Articles
  - Research guide
  - Pro/con viewpoints
- Save your research
- Create bibliographies
- Templates for research papers and more
- Three ways to search:
  - Subject heading
  - Keyword
  - Browse leading issues
- Articles on these major topic areas:
  - Business
  - Environment
  - Family
  - Global issues
  - Health
  - Human relations
  - Institutions
  - Science
- Articles have a Lexile score reading level
- SIRS stands for "Social Issues Resources Series"

**Special features**—groups specific topics in high interest areas.  
*Curriculum Pathfinders* support 21st Century Skill building.

SIRS Researcher provides selected full-text articles that support grades 6-12. "Leading Issues" provide nearly 100 topics including abortion, gun control, and capital punishment. Each Leading Issue has the topic overview, reviews the pro/con viewpoints and provides My Analysis to guide the student through the critical thinking process.

Printable list of Leading Issues

### To Access SIRS Researcher:

- Go to SD State Library website (<http://library.sd.gov>)
- Click *Online Resources: Complete Listing*
- Click *SIRS Researcher*
- Enter your Library Barcode and Password



## LEADING ISSUES: Immigration

Every Leading Issue has an Overview of the topic, both sides of the issue and "My Analysis" to help guide the research process.

Overview

Pro/Con

myAnalysis

PDF Research Guide

**Those who favor** unrestricted immigration say that immigrants provide cheap labor and services and keep costs down for American consumers. They often perform the low-paying or undesirable jobs that many Americans don't want. In the article [Immigrant Assimilation: Is the U.S. Still a Melting Pot?](#), economist Pia Orrenius argues that "immigration is key to current economic growth," noting that "immigrants contributed over 40 percent of labor force growth in the mid- to late 1990s." Proponents of immigration contend that "foreign workers are revitalizing cities that would otherwise have lost population, paying taxes to prop up Social Security and the federal budget, fueling growth and bolstering wages at the upper end of the income scale" in [Economists Debate Whether Immigration Is Fiscal Boon or Financial Strain](#). In his article [Importing People: Why Modern America Needs but Resents Immigrants](#), Bryce Christensen refutes the anti-immigration argument that the national identity of the United States is being threatened by the failure of immigrants to assimilate.

**Those opposed** say that immigrants take jobs away from American citizens and put a strain on government-financed social services. Fred Dickey, an opponent of unrestricted immigration, argues that "record numbers of illegal immigrants are pulling wages down for the poor and pushing taxes higher" in his article [Undermining American Workers](#). In the article [Patrol on the Borderline](#), author Dan Baum cites a 1997 National Research Council study showing that "over legal and illegal immigrants... receive more in public funded services than they pay in taxes." Samuel P. Huntington, a accomplished Harvard Professor, argues that "the persistent inflow of Hispanic immigrants threatens to divide the United States into two people, two cultures, and two languages" because "unlike past immigrant groups, Mexicans and other Latinos have not assimilated into mainstream U.S. culture, forming instead their own political and ethnic enclaves--from Los Angeles to Miami--and rejecting the Anglo-Protestant values that built the American dream" in [The Hispanic Challenge](#).

Printable Research Guide—approx 20 pages. Includes articles, overview, pro/con and My Analysis

Search results guide further research

**Suggested Keywords:** [immigrants](#); [emigration AND immigration](#); [naturalization](#); "

[See also Assimilation \(Sociology\)](#)

[See also Brain drain](#)

[See also Colonization](#)

[See also Emigration and immigration law](#)

[See also Emigration and immigration, Statistics](#)

[\[More...\]](#)

**MyAnalysis** engages students in critical thinking process...

1. **Develop**  
Basic Knowledge
2. **Understand**  
Differences of Opinion
3. **Differentiate**  
Fact from Opinion
4. **Formulate**  
Your own Opinions
5. **Express**  
Your Ideas in Debates, Presentations and Research papers!

531 <b>All Articles</b>	195 <b>Newspapers</b>	141 <b>Magazines</b>	108 <b>Gov't Docs</b>	19 <b>Primary Sources</b>	42 <b>Viewpoints</b>	16 <b>Reference</b>	316 <b>Graphics</b>	78 <b>WebSelect Sites</b>
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View only the type of information needed—including graphics, selected websites, government documents and primary sources

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